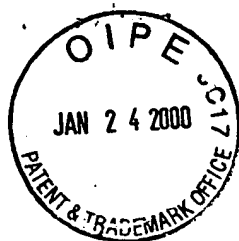


#6
2-10-00



35.C13834

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
HIROYUKI SHINBATA ET AL.) : Examiner: NYA
Application No.: 09/396,740) : Group Art Unit: 2721
Filed: September 15, 1999) :
For: IMAGE PROCESSING) :
APPARATUS, IMAGE) :
PROCESSING METHOD,) :
AND RECORDING MEDIUM) : January 21, 2000

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF DRAWING CHANGES

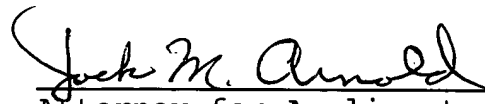
Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner approve the change to Figure 11, as shown in red on the attached sketch, enclosed in duplicate. This change comprises adding a line connecting the output of smoothing unit 802 to a second input of subtraction unit 805.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All

correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 25,823

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